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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 H-02 SAJ-01 IO-10

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P R 071731Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8543
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03869

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EAIR, WB, US, UK, FR, GW
SUBJECT: STATUS OF ROUTE SWAP AGREEMENT CONSIDERATION

REF: A. STATE 33784 B. BONN 1798

1. PAA DIRECTOR FOR GERMANY RUNNETTE CALLED EMB ASS'T CAA MARCH 5 TO REPORT THAT BA WAS PRESSING HARD FOR CAA APPROVAL OF THE ROUTE SWAP AGREEMENT WITHIN THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS SO THAT A MAY 1 IMPLEMENTATION DEADLINE COULD BE MET. GIVEN PAA'S PRESENT BERLIN OPERATING SITUATION, RUNNETTE SAID THAT HE HAD STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO PAA/NEW Y-ORK THAT THE ROUTE DIVISION NOT TAKE EFFECT BEFORE JUNE 1. UNDER BA PRESSURE, HOWEVER, RUNNETTE SAID HE HAD AGREED TO A MAY 1 IMPLEMENTATION IF CAA APPROVAL WAS GRANTED BY COB MARCH 7. HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT HE WOULD BE MUCH HAPPIER IF HE DID NOT HEAR FROM THE CAA'S BEFORE THE DEADLINE.

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2. WE TOLD RUNNETTE THAT WE HAD HAD NO FURTHER WORD SINCE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFTEL A AND THEREFORE ASSUMED THAT FINAL USG RESOLUTION OF THE MATTER STILL AWAITED CONFIRMATION FROM PAA HEADQUARTERS RE OUTSTANDING LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS. WE ADDED THAT UK CAA GROVES HAD TO DATE GIVEN NO INDICATION THAT HE WAS UNDER INSTRUC-TIONS TO PUSH FOR PROMPT APPROVAL. IN A SUBSEQUENT CON-VERSATION, EMB ASS'T CAA REMINDED RUNNETTE THAT WE HAD RECEIVED NO FORMAL APPLICATION ON THE ROUTE SWAP FROM HIS OFFICE BUT DID HAVE COPIES OF PAA'S JAN. 29 LETTER TO THE DEPARTMENT AND A COPY OF A DRAFT PAA ROUTE DIV-ISION SCHEDULE DATED FEB. 23. IT WAS AGREED THAT RUNN-ETTE WOULD TELEX A FORMAL APPLICATION REFERRING TO THE ABOVE DOCUMENTATION SOONEST. WE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT BONN CONSIDERATION OF THE APPLICATION WOULD REQUIRE THE USUAL PROCEDURAL STEPS INCLUDING BCATAG DISCUSSION. RUNNETTE SAID THAT HE BELIEVED PAA/NEW YORK WAS NOW ANXIOUS FOR PROMPT APPROVAL, BUT THAT HE PERSONALLY RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR A FULL EXAMINATION OF THE ROUTE DIVISION PROPOSAL BY ALL INTERESTED PARTIES IN BONN.

3. COMMENT: IT APPEARS RUNNETTE CONTINUES TO FAVOR A JUNE 1 IMPLEMENTATION. IN ANY EVENT, WE BELIEVE IT IS VIRTUALLY ESSENTIAL THAT THE ROUTE DIVISION SCHEME BE PRESENTED IN THE BCATAG AND THAT THE GERMANS BE GIVEN A SUITABLE PERIOD TO REVIEW THE NEW SCHEDULES ETC. ASSUMING USG CONSIDERATION IS CONCLUDED SHORTLY AND THE AIRLINES PRESS FOR PROMPT IMPLEMENTATION, WE MAY HAVE TO GO TO THE BCATAG WITH THE ROUTE SWAP BEFORE WE HAVE COMPLETED A REVISED FARE INCREASE PRESENTATION, A SEQUENC WHICH COULD CARRY SOME DISADVANTAGES FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE LATTER EXERCISE.

5. AS AN INTERIM MEASURE THE CAA'S HAVE APPROVED A SUMMER SCHEDULE FOR BA AND PAA EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, WHICH CONTINUES THE PRESENT ROUTING PATTERN (BOTH AIRLINES SERVING ALL FRG DESTINATIONS EXCEPT BREMEN AND NUEREM-BERG.
HILLENBRAND

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